

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims. Please cancel claims 12-17, 19-28 and 30-34 as follows:

1 Claim 1. (previously presented) A method for managing a multi-
2 tiered resource system, the method comprising:
3 automatically determining if a resource tier is in compliance
4 with a management policy, wherein the management policy includes
5 requiring that an expiration date of the resource tier occur after a
6 maintenance date; and
7 if the resource tier is not in compliance with the management
8 policy, automatically increasing available capacity in containers in
9 order to bring the containers in compliance with the management policy.

1 Claim 2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein
2 increasing available capacity in containers includes allocating
3 additional capacity to containers belonging to the resource tier until
4 the resource tier is in compliance with the management policy.

1 Claim 3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein allocating
2 additional capacity to the containers includes utilizing a capacity
3 reserve belonging to the resource tier.

1 Claim 4. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein allocating
2 additional capacity to the containers includes utilizing available
3 capacity from other containers in the resource system.

1 Claim 5. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein allocating
2 additional capacity to the containers includes allocating additional
3 capacity to containers of higher importance before allocating
4 additional capacity to containers of lower importance.

 Claim 6. (canceled)

1 Claim 7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further
2 comprising calculating the expiration date of the resource tier.

1 Claim 8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein calculating
2 the expiration date of the resource tier includes calculating a life
3 expectancy of each container belonging to the resource tier.

1 Claim 9. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein calculating
2 the life expectancy of the containers includes adjusting the life
3 expectancy of the containers to account for container lead-time.

1 Claim 10. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising
2 if the resource tier cannot be brought in compliance with the
3 management policy, alerting that the resource tier is not in compliance
4 with the management policy.

1 Claim 11. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein
2 increasing available capacity in containers includes compressing data
3 within the resource tier until the resource tier is in compliance with
4 the management policy.

 Claim 12-34. (cancelled)